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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/873,224      | 06/05/2001  | Geert Maertens       | 2752-45             | 4458             |

23117 7590 04/11/2006

NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC  
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR  
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

MARTINELL, JAMES

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1634

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| APPLICATION NO./<br>CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /<br>PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|

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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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20060328

DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner for Patents**

See the attached letter.

See also the attached copy of form PTO-1449 filed June 5, 2006 (page 2 of 2 only).

ames Martinell  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1634

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Applicant has noted in a telephone message left with the USPTO on March 21, 2006 that two references on the PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 5, 2001 were not properly noted as considered by the examiner. The foreign patent JP 6-319563 was not initialed and was not crossed out. JP 6-319563 is now noted as considered s to the English language abstract. No English translation of this Japanese language document is in the file. In addition, Bukh et al, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA. 91: 8239-8243 (1994) is also considered here. The error is regretted.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Martinell whose telephone number is (571) 272-0719.

The examiner works a flexible schedule and can be reached by phone and voice mail. Alternatively, a request for a return telephone call may be e-mailed to [james.martinell@uspto.gov](mailto:james.martinell@uspto.gov). Since e-mail communications may not be secure, it is suggested that information in such requests be limited to name, phone number, and the best time to return the call.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ram Shukla, can be reached on (571) 272-0735.

Art Unit: 1634


**OFFICIAL FAX NUMBER**

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300. Any Official Communication to the USPTO should be faxed to this number.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

  
**James Martinell, Ph.D.**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 1634**

3/28/04 3/28/04